Remarks

Response to Restriction Requirement

This responds to the Office action dated March 22, 2007. In such Office action, the Examiner contends that the claims of the subject application are directed to nine patentably distinct inventions, and subcombinations, namely:

Group I: claims 1-10, 41-62, and 215-234;

Group II: claims 11-40 and 63-90;

Group III: claims 91-100 and 211-214;

Group IV: claims 101-118;

Group V: claims 119-124;

Group VI: claims 125-142 and 153-164;

Group VII: claims 143-152;

Group VIII: claims 165-176; and

Group IX: claims 177-210.

Applicant elects the Group I claims 1-10, 41-62, and 215-234 for examination, without traverse, and withdraws the remaining claims but reserves the right to file divisional applications for the withdrawn claims of Groups II-IX.

Preliminary Amendment

As indicated in the foregoing listing of claims, Applicant hereby preliminarily amends some of the Group I claims and withdraws other Group I claims, so that the independent Group I claims now total five, and the total Group I claims now total twenty-five.

More specifically, by the foregoing preliminary amendment of the elected Group I claims, claims 5-10, 52-62, 219-222, and 229-234 have been withdrawn. Applicant reserves the right to include these claims in future continuation applications.

Claim 215 has been amended to add the features of dependent claims 216 and 217, and the latter two claims have been canceled.

Claim 223 has been amended to include the feature of dependent claim 226, and the latter claim has been canceled.

If any issues remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney to arrange a telephonic interview. This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by written request.

Respectfully submitted,

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